(c) whether Government have any long term plan for the development of Inland Water Transport Network in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) In order to expand the inland water transport network in the country, the Inand Waterways Authority of India have various schemes to develop the National Waterways No. 1 to 3, viz. the Ganga, the Brahmaputra and the West Coast Canal for safe navigation and shipping by providing necessary infrastructural facilities like terminals, navigational aids, bank protection in narrow stretches etc. There is a proposal to examine and to declare few more waterways as National Waterways. Studies have been undertaken on few more canal systems to ascertain their viability, by the IWAI.

(b) It is proposed to attract private participation in the operation of vessels by the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd., Calcutta.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Beyond 8th Five Year Plan, it is proposed to develop existing National Waterways No. 1 to 3 for navigating larger vessels and to provide mechanised terminals, and day & night navigational facilities, based on cargo offering. New National Waterways, which are to be declared, will be developed for improved navigation, based on the cargo potential. For development of waterways other than National Waterways, and inland water transport in the States the Central Government provides financial assistance to the extent of 50 per cent to the State Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

गंगा नदी में नौवहन सुविधायें

243. **चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह :**
श्री आस मोहम्मद् :

क्या **जल-भूतल परिवहन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या गंगा नदी में नौवहन सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराने हेतु कोई योजना तैयार की गई है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है इस समय उक्त योजना किस चरण में है ?

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदीश टाईटलर) : (क) और (ख) जी, हां । राष्ट्रीय जलमार्ग सं० 1 अर्थात् गंगा भगीरथी-हुगली नदी प्रणाली के इलाहाबाद-हल्दिया खंड (1620 कि०मी०) का चरणबद्ध रूप में नौचालन के लिए विकास किया जा रहा है । दिन के समय नौचालन के लिए चैनल के चिह्न लगाने के साथ-साथ 2.0 मी० गहरी एक चैनल उपलब्ध कराकर हल्दिया- पटना खंड में नौचालन चैनल के विकास की स्कीमें कार्यान्वित की जा रही हैं। यातायात की मांग के आधार पर इलाहाबाद -पटना खंड में नौचालन सुविधा विकसित की जाएगी । आठवी पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान हल्दिया फरक्का खंड में दिन एवं रात्रि के समय नौचालन संबंधी सुविधा प्रदान करने की योजना है ।

Deficiency survey of the Cochin—Madurai National Highway

244. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any deficiency or realignment survey of the Cochin-Madurai National High way;

(b) if so, when and the major findings thereon;

(c) what is the estimated investment required in this connection;

(d) during this financial year, how much funds were allotted for this national highway;

(e) out of which, how much has since been spent;

(f) during this year, how many major works were completed and details thereof in each work;

(g) as on date, how many major works are pending for completion and details of each work and by when each work is expected to be completed; and

(h) how many major works are expected to be started this financial year and details of each work, including its cost, location and time required for completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) Estimates for survey and investigations for identification of deficiencies and requirement of realignment of Cochin—Madurai National Highway have already been sanctioned and the work is in progress. The investment required will be assessed only after the completion of this survey and investigation.

(d) to (h) Pending completion of investigation work, except for some minor works, no major work has been sanctioned in this Section of NH.

Allocation of funds for MNP

245. SHRI BHADRESWAR GOHAIN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the norms and criteria for allocating one lakh rupees per kilometer for new MNP (Minimum Needs Programme) roads by Government;

(b) whether this scale is feasible for the whole country specially in the flood prone and hilly regions of the North East.

(c) if not, whether Government will consider for changing the scale after consulting with the relevant departments and authorities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

Payment of arrears to Indian Oil Corporation by DTC

246. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Transport Corporation has to pay Rs. 22 crores as arears to the Indian Oil Corporation for diesel and petrol supplies taken by the former;

(b) if so, give details thereof, and periods of such arrears;

(c) whether reduction in fleet of DTC buses in Delhi has affected its regular income being made from pass-holders;

(d) whether Government have some statistics to show the income made by DTC regularly from the pass-holders before and after reduction in its fleet

(e) whether Government propose to restore status-quo of DTC fleet to check further arrears on account of diesel: and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?